



PRESS RELEASE

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MDOC Community Services Division Employee Receives Award

Jackson - The employee recognition awards ceremony for the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) Community Services Division Region I was held today at Mississippi State Penitentiary in Parchman, Miss. At the ceremony, field officer Nickola Wright received an Extra Effort Award.

Wright, Field Officer III, works at the Lee County Probation & Parole office in Tupelo. Wright was nominated for the Extra Effort Award by Bill Brand. Wright recently starting taking classes to learn sign language so that she can communicate with hearing impaired offenders and their families.

"It's because of efforts like this that Officer Williams is being honored with an Extra Effort Award," said Brand. "She also attends classes to keep her certification current as an emergency medical responder in the event that any of her clients or fellow officers should need medical attention."

Wright was presented a certificate and lapel pin by Interim Deputy Commissioner of Community Services Lora Cole and MDOC Commissioner Robert Johnson. "I always enjoy this part of my job," said Commissioner Johnson. "It's important to recognize employees for the hard work that they do."

The MDOC Employee Service Award Program originated in July 2001 to nominate fellow MDOC employees for the following awards:

- Correctional Officer of the Month
- Field Officer of the Month
- Staff Employee of the Month
- Security Employee of the Month

In addition, MDOC established the Heroism Award and Extra Effort Award. The Heroism Award is given to MDOC employees who go above and beyond the call of duty in heroic efforts to either save the life of an individual or prevent other lives from dangerous situations. The Extra Effort Award is designed to recognize employees who go the extra mile or take on additional duties to assist in a project in order to get it done.

MDOC will hold ceremonies each month to officially recognize outstanding employees at all three state institutions (Mississippi State Penitentiary in Parchman, Miss; Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Pearl, Miss; and South Mississippi Correctional Institution in Leakesville, Miss.) and at the MDOC central office in Jackson.

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